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THE PETROLEUM MARKET IN 1924.

GENERAL.

The year under review has really differed but little from the years immediately preceding. Political troubles, strikes and bandits have all done their bit in keeping people impoverished and their buying powers at a minimum. It is true that the Province of Kwangsi has been more immune from any of these troubles this year, than during recent years, but as an offset to this, the state of Kwangtung has been worse than ever, while Fukien has also suffered.

Whole rivers in Kwangtung have been cut off from Canton during the last twelve months, and there has been no cargo traffic whatsoever along them. July and August witnessed an extraordinary boycott of Shamen, during which all Chinese employees of every sort were withdrawn from work. Nobody gained anything from this demonstration and a great deal of valuable trade was lost. Finally, in October the Red Army of Sun Yat Sen was turned loose upon the Merchant Volunteers in Canton, and an immense number of shops were burned and/or looted. The Chinese merchant still goes round in fear and trepidation, and no immediate return to tranquillity can be predicted.

KEROSENE.

Prices were advanced about 30 cents per case in March 1924, and remained steady thereafter throughout the year. The total consumption was but slightly more than last year, and the trade was confined almost entirely to the three organised distributing companies. Towards the close of the year Chinese importers were showing some interest in the American kerosene market, and a certain amount of so-called outside importations of kerosene were made principally through the intermediary of foreign agents of Californian Petroleum Companies in Shanghai.

MOTOR SPIRIT.

Although a number of local Chinese generals in Kwangtung and elsewhere have embarked on road making schemes, results on the whole have been disappointing. The roads when actually made, have no proper foundations and no provision is made for their upkeep. None the less these first serious steps in the making of roads capable of carrying motor traffic mark a definite point in China's progress, and that return to tranquillity, for which we all hope, but which none of us seriously expect in the near future, should be marked by the springing up of new roads in all directions. Such roads, as there are, are mostly used by the ubiquitous Ford bus. Nevertheless from the point of view of the seller of motor spirit, Hongkong is still the only considerable market in South China with which they have to reckon. Here the consumption has been steadily increasing throughout the year and you have only to walk along the streets of Kowloon or Hongkong itself to see how rapidly the number of private cars and hackney vehicles, not to mention larger buses and lorries, has grown. There would appear to be, however, a definite limit that must be set to this expansion until such time as roads from Hongkong territory lead out into Kwangtung proper.

LIQUID FUEL.

This is another product of petroleum of which the sales continue to increase. The number of vessels, particularly passenger vessels, burning liquid fuel under boilers, is still going up; and still more remarkable is the growing number of ocean-going motor ships. Hongkong is the only port in South China where there is any considerable call for this form of bunkers, and the budding trade in liquid fuel at Canton and the Coast ports, etc., for the use of small Chinese owned passenger boats, has received a severe setback owing to the continuance of disorder and piracy which has made the navigation of South China waterways a most dangerous and often impracticable proposition. Added to this, various fighting generals from time to time have commandeered all the launches they could lay their hands on and frequently have failed to return them to their owners.

PARAFFIN WAX.

The paraffin wax imported from foreign parts has always to meet with severe competition from vegetable and animal waxes and fats produced by the natives. Of these competing articles, groundnut and tea oils are the most important. Another competitor is Szechuen wax, which is an insect wax obtained from the Province of Szechuen. This wax has to come down the Yangtze, and seasonal difficulties to navigation and, we might almost add, seasonal fighting in that region, affects the price most considerably. Generally speaking the past year has seen neither an expansion nor a contraction of the foreign wax trade.

PARAFFIN WAX CANDLES.

This is another imported product which has not only to compete with the native waxes above mentioned, but also with similar candles made actually of foreign imported wax in local factories in Amoy, Foochow and Shanghai. Naturally the cost of labour of these small native factories is very low and the manufactured candles imported from abroad have felt their competition very keenly during the past year as the import figures witness.

LUBRICATING OIL.

Like liquid fuel, lubricating oil is sold mostly in Hongkong for consumption in local factories or for the use of ocean-going ships or motor vehicles. Here again, there is a tremendous field in the interior which could be opened up for this product, given peace and tranquillity. The Chinese, particularly the Cantonese, are keenly attracted by anything mechanical, and were it not for the recurrence of serious disorder and the consequent impoverishment of the people, undoubtedly many more factories and other machinery of all sorts would be introduced and the sales of lubricating oil would benefit accordingly. In the interior mineral lubricating oil has also a native product.

(Continued on next Column.)



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There's some things, sir, which just naturally go together.

A page boy isn't happy without chewing-gum and "Deadwood Dicks."

Gentlemen of experience and good taste, sir, fully appreciate a glass of old Port and a Kensitas, they know that a Kensitas cigarette is "as good as a really good cigarette can be."

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Wednesday, Jan. 21st, 4.30 p.m.

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**THE ANDERSON MUSIC
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for

\$3 and \$2 Seats

[1693]

HONGKONG SHARE MARKET.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

JANUARY 12TH, 1925.	
Hongkong and Shanghai	
Banks	\$1,200 b.
Canton Insurance	\$750 b.
Hongkong Fire Insurance	\$715 b.
Union Insurance	\$350 b.
Donkey Steamship	\$54 nom.
H.K. & S. Steamship	\$38 1/2 b. \$38 1/2 sa.
"Star" Ferries	\$138 1/2 b. \$138 1/2 sa.
Waterboats	\$18 1/2 b.
"Shell" Transport	\$87 1/2 b.
China Sugars	\$21 nom.
Langkate (combined)	\$208 b. \$208/209 sa.
Kowloon Wharves	\$150 nom.
Whampoa Dock	\$108 nom.
Shanghai Dock	\$108 nom.
H.K. & S. Hotels (old)	\$18 1/2 (new) \$17 1/2 nom.
Hongkong Lands	\$106 1/2 a.
Hamphrey's Estates	\$22 1/2 b.
Ewo Mills	\$12.60 b. \$12.80 sa.
Shanghai Cottons (old)	\$14 1/2 (new) \$13 1/2 b.
Oriental	\$13 1/2 a.
Cementa (combined)	\$35 b.
China Lighta (combined)	\$35 b.
Providenta (old)	\$16 1/2 b.
(new)	\$16 1/2 sa.
combined	\$33 1/2 b.
Dairy Farms	\$26 1/2 a.
Electrics	\$44 nom.
Hongkong Ropes (combined)	\$58 nom.
Cableways	\$52 1/2 b.
Watsons	(old) \$22 (new) \$13 1/2 b.
Peak Tram	(old) \$34 (new) \$13 1/2 b.
b—buyers; s—sellers; a—sides.	

which competes against it, to wit, native made castor oil. This oil, as is well known, is an excellent lubricant and is well turned out very cheaply in certain parts of South China. During 1924 there was a slight increase in the total importations of lubricants.

COMPANY REPORT.

THE HONGKONG DEVELOPMENT BUILDING & SAVINGS SOCIETY, LTD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the first ordinary general meeting reads as follows:—
The Board of Directors have now to lay before the shareholders a statement of accounts, and balance sheet for the period from the 28th December, 1923, to the 30th September, 1924.

The Net Profit for the above period is \$23,235.91
Preliminary Expenses written off 8,612.87

Balance to be carried forward to the credit of next year's account \$14,723.04

Directors.—Since the statutory meeting in March, 1924, Mr. R. G. Shewan, owing to the stress of his other duties, has resigned from our Board, and Mr. C. E. H. Beavis has left the Colony on furlough. Under Article 100 of the Articles of Association Mr. Beavis has requested that Mr. D. H. Blake be appointed as his substitute and this has been agreed to by your Board. Hon. Mr. C. Montague Ede has been invited to a seat on the Board and has accepted. These appointments require confirmation.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

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better pictures
than

ROSITA

We have not seen them!

Romance rides gaily thro' this glowing tale of Old Seville, in which MARY PICKFORD, directed by Ernst Lubitsch scores the greatest triumph of her entire screen career.

ROSITA

is Showing TO-DAY and TOM-ORROW

at

THE CORONET

WIVES
WHO WISH
TO RETAIN
THEIR HUSBANDS'
LOVE

Should Not Miss

CYTHEREA

DON'T
SLIP,
HUSBANDS!

Take Heed From

CYTHEREA

Under Article 92 of the Articles of Association, Dr. J. O. Dalmabay Allen and Messrs. Chan Sau Fung and Leung Yau Po retire but being eligible offer themselves for re-election.
Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Percy Smith, Seth & Fleming who are eligible for re-appointment.

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Solely for medicinal purposes. Price 1/6 each. Sold by all chemists and druggists. For full particulars see prospectus. Made in Hong Kong.

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THE ANTI-CHRISTIAN
OUTBREAK.

A POSTER FROM CHANGSHA.

A missionary who secured some of the "literature" disseminated at Changsha by student bands on Christmas Day sends to the *Shanghai Mercury* the following rough translation of a large poster:—

"Arise! Perceive your enemy! Down with Christianity! The military execute with a sword, and you can see the blood, but Christianity (Kistuk Kina) kills you without your perceiving it! Foreigners come here from rich, powerful lands to injure us Chinese. Cannot you see this? They used swords and great guns to whip China, and then bring along some foreign goods (trade) and capture all our money. They made large loans of money to military officials, at high rates of interest, and so cause us to fight and kill one another. All our railroads and mines are in their hands, mortgaged to them for these loans, so they have our wealth. Still worse, they come here to preach Christianity, and while their faces are all smiles, a sword is in their tongues. Their words are like honey, but a hidden poison injures us. Beware of them all! They put up chapels and open schools, seducing us Chinese into these places to 'worship' there, or study their foreign tongues, and later to go off to their land. In this way they enslave us! Beware! Then they have Associations (Y.M.C.A.), and what kinds of places are these? They induce us to go out and frolic, to see free pictures, and to play at football, and root with such words as 'yes', 'no', and 'no!' (no). These are just like the trap-birds of the Red Light district of Shanghai, which lure you to your doom, with fine appearances! They are equal to all evil things—unmentionable! They come to us, really being hired agents of their rich Government, and then corrupt our officials and scholars. What are these Festivals they get up (referring to Christmas) when they get a few pretty girls to sing and repeat things in public on the platform, and thus they deceive and dupe us. Comrades (Tung-jen, a real Russian expression) don't you remember! What were the Eight Armies here for in 1900? Just for the purpose that Germany might grab Tsingtao territory, of Shantung Province, and other nations grab other parts of our territory! To sum up, they are robbers and thieves of the worst kind! A Canton College (giving the name) forbids the students to be patriotic, a certain Changsha school (giving name of Mission) has a black record, and here is Yale, they will not allow us students to meet together to discuss (these) matters, but stand at their doors with guns and will not even allow us to take away our possession! These latter are all untrue, right at home. Don't you know? Arise! Oppose this Christianity! It kills people without your knowing it! It is worse than the curse of opium. This we now see clearly. So on this date we form an Anti-Christian Festival (on the date they call Holy Birth Day Festival) and we unite ourselves to form this new Union. We are already sixteen thousand, eight hundred and seventy-five names, and so call upon all to do away with Christianity, and down the Foreigner!"

"Issued this 13th year of China, 12th moon, 25th day."

The gist of the smaller slips, the correspondent writes was:—

"Comrades! Arise! Away with the hated 'foreign' religion, which is enslaving and ruining China! Keep yourselves and your children away from their schools! Oppose their Christianity!"

Commenting on this the missionary writer says:—

APATHY OF THE OFFICIALS.

While the above is deplorable, and should, of course, have been stopped by the officials, or all the 250 "students" should have gone home to their parents or guardians, been soundly spanked and sent to bed for about three days, it reveals a sad state of school life on these Mission fields. An able article in the leading *Hankow daily*, by a well-known writer of over 40 years' residence in China, recently stated, under the heading "Educating Young China" that in the earlier days of the missionaries were great preachers, preaching the Word. They were great scholars, and much of the latest information about China to be found in books is their work. They were also teachers, in a way, and their text-book was the Catechism. That the foreigners, and the missionaries in particular, should take upon their shoulders the responsibility of providing young China with an ordinary secular education was an idea which had never occurred to them. The old hands would have it that the marching orders were to "preach the Gospel to every creature," and not to teach all the young to read, write and cipher!

If foreigners must teach in China it is clear we should not "foreignize" them, as is being done at a wholesale rate, but should become Chinese. They do, use native products, make use of native buildings, praise up the wonderful civilization, accomplishments and ways of the people we work amongst, for, praise God, these people have a wonderful and really complete civilization, and therefore our efforts should be bent to give them what they have not—the entire Bible, with all its wonders, and the countless songs and hymns that have arisen, in gratitude, from the race, for this priceless, eternal, pure treasure of God, His Holy Word.

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

UNREST AMONG CHINESE
STUDENTS.

[BY OUR PEKING CORRESPONDENT.]

Considerable liveliness is being displayed at present by Chinese students through the country, and from several centres come reports of strikes and agitations, not all of them for the same avowed reason but nevertheless all revealing a defiance of authority, or resentment against existing institutions. Disputes are now taking place at Changsha, Hankow, and Nankai, while at Shanghai an anti-Christian movement organised by students is said to be on foot. Perhaps the affair at Changsha is the least serious viewed from a distance. In this instance a Chinese professor, who had been acting as referee in a football match, gave a decision which the students of the Yale-in-China Medical School considered unfair. Argument followed, and the referee so far forgot himself as to strike one of the protesting students. However, at the earliest opportunity he formally apologised to the student whom he had struck. This did not satisfy the other students who demanded that the professor be dismissed. The faculty apparently considered that the professor had made full amends by his formal apology and declined to sacrifice him in order to appease the anger of the students. Thereupon the latter to the number of three hundred went on strike. Sympathy will doubtless be felt with them, but that resentment should not be pushed too far. Having allowed himself to commit a "wrong," the professor ought to have been content to accept a formal apology which ought to have been deemed ample in the circumstances. It is for the faculty to decide whether or not in the interests of the college the professor should remain—not the students.

With reference to the students' strike in Hankow the *Central China Post* gives the following explanation:—"In Shanghai is a group of certain foreigners who at this festive season of the year make a point of presenting books to the Chinese students in the Mission Colleges without asking permission, and in spite of the fact that these books are not permitted in the establishment. The other day a consignment arrived at one of the local Colleges with some two hundred students in attendance, and the Heads collected them and stuck them into the stove, for the weather was cold. The students objected to this, and demanded their books, with a very ample apology or they would go on strike. The matter was explained to them, but they declined to be influenced, so the strike duly came off and half a hundred young men sacrificed their educational career after half a dozen foreign teachers had spent a great deal of precious time in their instruction. They all walked off of their own accord and no attempt was made to compel them to stay. The Bolsheviks do not know they should ask for permission in such a case, nor are they acquainted with the courtesies observed in connection with such matters." Here again the students imagine that they know better than their teachers what is best for them.

The situation at Nankai University is somewhat different. In this instance it is the professors who have refused to conduct classes appearing in the *Yankai Weekly*, an undergraduate publication of the University, which reflected upon the ability and qualification of the staff. Again, there is the same disrespect of authority.

These student strikes in China reveal the startling changes which have come over the youth of this land. In no other country was a teacher so highly esteemed and venerated as in China, and the break with tradition which has followed the introduction of Western educational systems must be viewed with shame and horror by the older generation. We can all sympathise with the youthful minds turning to the new thoughts of the day, and we can sympathise with their questioning of existing institutions. That is the privilege of youth. In time, if they give themselves the chance, they will learn to attempt reforms, not by violent upheavals but by smooth changes and easy transitions. In a word, they will learn as the university system has proved in Europe that practically full powers for tutors are necessary. Undoubtedly students more than other class in the country have responded to the pernicious doctrines preached by Bolshevik propagandists throughout the cities of China, and college authorities should not be blamed for taking whatever steps may be deemed necessary to counteract Bolshevik tendencies.

It may interest all old "Conways" on the China Coast to know that the annual Old Boys dinner was held in Liverpool on November 7th and was a great success. About 50 "old boys" and some 30 guests were present including Admiral Sir Sackville H. Carden, R.C.M.G., R.N., and Commodore Edward Unwin, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., R.N., both old "Conways." Commodore Unwin proposed to toast of absent comrades and made special reference to those away in foreign parts of the world.

No wonder students finally rebel and bite back, when we do nothing but "foreignize" them. Look at India, the Philippines, and even Japan. It seems evident that in a few years, perhaps less than ten, all foreigners in these three lands will be compelled to flee, as a reaction of our unwise, and unbecoming aggression, and being unable of assimilation to other people. Foreigners will be well warned in time, if this is now heeded, and Divine knowledge, and an intimate acquaintance with God, His purposes for the world, His Love, His Sacrifice, His return, and future world kingdom.

THE TIENTSIN TRAIN ROBBERY.

FOREIGN PASSENGERS HELD UP
BY FENGtien SOLDIERS.SHOTS IN CARRIAGE: \$10,000
STOLEN.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* of December 31st gives the following account of the robbery of passengers on the Peking express briefly reported at the time by cable:—

An audacious coup was carried out by Fengtien soldiers last night, when they held up passengers who were travelling in the Peking express to Tientsin. The soldiers, as far as is known, were only four in number, though there may have been others who kept guard for their comrades while the four robbed the passengers in the carriage. The train had just left Yangtsun station when there was the first hint of trouble. A party of soldiers who had apparently been travelling in the front section of the train, walked into one of the first class coaches. There were eight foreigners and a number of Chinese in the carriage which was open and not divided into coupes.

The guard of the train, Mr. C. Aitken, noticed the soldiers enter, and he at once told them to go back to their own carriage. This the soldiers refused to do, but despite the fact that they were armed with rifles and pistols, Mr. Aitken went up to their leader, and unceremoniously pushed him to the door of the coach, through it, and into the next carriage. The rest of the soldiers then went back to the second class section.

Unfortunately Mr. Aitken, presuming that there was no significance in the soldiers' action beyond that they wished to sit in a better glass coach, left the carriage, and shortly after he had gone the men returned.

This time they made no bones of their intention to rob the passengers. "Pointing their rifles and pistols at the foreign occupants, they called out to the passengers to put their hands up. At the same time they fired shots at the floor and windows of the carriage."

The passengers had no choice but to part with all their valuables, the soldiers taking money, rings, watches and all articles which looked sufficiently tempting. Even ten cent pieces were not ignored. In all their loot was worth over \$10,000. One passenger alone, Mr. Alfred Weitzer, lost \$1,500 in cash, and \$1,000 worth of valuables. Another passenger lost \$2,000 in cash.

The train was moving at the time, and there was no means of calling the guard. By the time the loot was collected, the train was close to Peitsang, and as it drew up at the station, the soldiers ran into the second class coaches again, and made good their escape. One of them was so eager to get away, that he broke the window, and dropped through it on the platform.

When the alarm was raised it was too late to chase the men, who quickly mingled with the crowd and the other soldiers.

The passengers robbed were: Mr. A. E. Weitzer, of Morgan Weitzer and Co.

Mr. Ben Rocklin.
Mr. Myron Shick.
A German gentleman.
Two American officers.
An American lady.

It is significant that when the robbers levelled their guns, they cried out to the Chinese passengers not to worry. "We are after the foreigners," they repeated. "We shall not rob the Chinese."

In addition to the pistols and rifles, one of the men had a hand grenade which he was at great pains to exhibit. He held this up threateningly, and motioned as if to throw it when the soldiers left the carriage.

He thought better of this, however, though his comrades again fired several shots with their pistols.

Only the one coach was entered, and no attempt was made to rob any of the other carriages. It is ironical that one of the soldiers was full of soldiers from the Loyd Regiment who were returning from Peking. They were all in ignorance of the hold-up until after the Chinese had left the train.

HOW AMERICAN LADY SAVED
HER RINGS.

"We all thought that they intended to throw the bomb at us when they left," said one of the passengers, Mr. Alfred Weitzer, to a *P. and T. Times* representative.

"It was about half past seven when the soldiers robbed us, and we were only two stations away from Tientsin. I was playing levelled their guns, we could do nothing but hold up our hands as they commanded. We all had to take everything we had and place it on one of the tables. I had \$1,500 in cash, a ring worth \$250, and a valuable watch which was a gift from my wife. Another man, Mr. Rocklin, lost about \$2,000, and others in the carriage had large sums on them which they had to hand over."

"I think the only one of us to save anything was the American lady. She turned round when the soldiers came in, and taking off her rings, put them in her mouth. The rest of us lost everything."

"All the booty was put on the table, and then the soldiers took it as they left. The small change, the ten cent pieces, were left at first, but on reaching the door, the soldiers came back again, and took those too."

Mr. Weitzer said he believed that the shots fired were only blanks, as after the hold-up a number of bullets which had been extracted from the cartridge cases were found outside the door of the carriage. One or two of the last shots, however, may not have been blanks.

"The German told me that his hat had a bullet hole in it," said Mr. Weitzer. "His hat was on a table, and it is possible that one of the men fired at it."

"I think as a matter of fact, that one of the windows was broken by a bullet, but I am not sure. At least the window was broken when the soldiers got away."

(Continued at foot of next Column.)

LOCAL SPORT.

GOLF.

CLUB SERVICES.

At Fanning on January 11th the Club beat the Services at golf by 8 points to 5.

SINGLES.

	Points.	Club. Ser.
L. W. Shewan, 4 and 3 beat	1	0
Capt. Bennett	0	0
A. H. Ferguson, all square.	0	0
Capt. Bacon	0	0
R. M. Smith lost to Lieut.	0	1
Alexander, 4 and 3	0	1
R. A. Camidge, 5 and 4 beat	1	0
Comdr. Lyle	0	0
G. S. Archbutt, 6 and 5 beat	1	0
Midshipman Stevenson	0	0
J. R. Mitchell, 4 and 3	1	0
beat Major Littlejohns.	1	0
Total singles.	4	1

FOURSUMERS.

Shewan and Ferguson lost to	2
Bennet and Bacon 1 hole	2
Smith and Camidge, 5 and 4	2
beat Stevenson and Lyle.	2
Archbutt and Mitchell lost to	2
Alexander and Littlejohns, 5 and 3	2
Total fourballs.	2
Add singles	4
Grand total	6

HOCKEY.

H.K.H.C. 1st XI. v. H.M.S.

"HAWKINS."

The following will represent the Hongkong H.C. 1st XI. against H.M.S. *Hawkins* on Wednesday, the 14th inst. at the U.S.R.C. at 5 p.m. sharp:—P. W. F. Mills, H. Owen Hughes, A. A. Dand, Rev. F. W. L. Martin, E. J. R. Mitchell (capt.), L. P. Ralph, G. G. More, H. R. Menecock, Lionel Jones, F. L. Sim, and T. J. Price.

LOCAL TURF.

To the list of the "old" ponies mentioned in yesterday's issue, as likely to carry silk at the annual meeting next month, must be added that of Golden Chrysanthemum, which is due here tomorrow.

This pony is a Kiangwan griffin of 1921, and has been purchased by Mr. A. A. Alves. Up to June 30th last year he had won \$4,125 in stakes, of which \$1,600 was the result of one win, four seconds and two thirds, between January and June 1924, out of 13 attempts. Previously to that he had won three races and been placed six times out of 13 starts.

Other old ponies entered in the name of Mr. A. A. Alves are Irrespressible and Starland.

Mr. C. Encarnacao will ride for the stable during the big meeting.

On enquiry at the Secretary's office yesterday morning, it was stated that the full list of entries would probably be available for the Press before the end of the week.

CINEMA NOTES

THE CORONET.

Between the great Carnivals of Christmas and the Chinese New Year it is appropriate that the Coronet should screen two great pictures featuring the Carnival spirit—the "Merry-Go-Round" (which had an enormous success last week), and "Rosita," which later is already "the talk of the town." It was quite apparent from its initial reception on Sunday night that it would attract more than the average cinema patron, and the "house" last night again demonstrated that where Mary Pickford is featured there are in the fulgure, sense of the term. "Rosita" will be shown at the Coronet until Wednesday night, after which the venue will be changed to the Star Theatre, Kowloon.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.

"Marriage as a unique means of obtaining revenge is employed by Norma Talmadge as the heroine in the powerful First National picture, "Within the Law," the current film at the Queen's Theatre this week. But it is not revenge against her unsuspecting lover that Mary Turner, played by Miss Talmadge, seeks; her wrath is aimed at Dick's father, Edward Gilder, for having caused her to serve a prison term for a crime she did not commit. The stigma follows her out of prison and she turns adventuress, specializing in breach of promise suits. She takes advantage of an opportunity that presents itself when she meets Dick Gilder following a faked drowning. He succumbed to her wiles and they married. But Mary's "revenge" loses its flavor when she discovers she loves her husband. Jack Mulhall plays the role of Dick Gilder, the husband."

The soldiers were not wearing the usual black armband of the Fengtien army, according to Mr. Weitzer, but the Chinese in the carriage said they were Fengtien soldiers.

It is reported in a message from Peking that the United States Consul-General at Tientsin has received from the Peking Mukden Railway Administration the sum of \$4,500 as indemnity for the losses suffered by American passengers.

BERNARD SHAW'S "SAINT JOAN."

FIRST PERFORMANCE IN HONGKONG.

(Written specially for the Hongkong Daily Press.)

Appreciation of the latest play written by G.B.S. will be the keynote sounded by the public during this week, and this appreciation will be the more intense as realisation comes of the great privilege which we in Hongkong enjoy of an A.D.C. which has the necessary courage and the clear vision to dare such an undertaking as "Saint Joan." It would be surprising if the uninitiated could realize fully, even though they may enthusiastically approve, the toil which Mr. Sinclair and all those working with him during the past strenuous months have undergone. At the beginning it was necessary to see clearly that such a wonderful dramatic work could be presented at all under conditions which are certainly far from ideal; next the actual casting of the play must have given the producer many anxious moments; the general apparatus of illumination, comprising in the manufacture and assembly of many complicated pieces of scenery, and the necessary lighting effects; all these had to be carefully planned months ago to enable us to enjoy our 2½ hours' play. When we can begin to appreciate the labour involved we shall approach the play and its presentation with sympathy and imagination.

It is extremely probable that few enthusiasts who intend to see "Saint Joan" during the coming week will be unacquainted with the story which Shaw attempts to make so real. In a Shaw play it is often as well to read the play before seeing it—and the Preface to "Saint Joan" is extremely valuable as an historical document. One's attitude towards the play will mainly be determined by one's historical prejudices, but we should be prepared to revise radically our whole conception of the Maid as many of us learnt the story at school. We cannot help making a comparison with Florence Nightingale. I have not that splendid book "Eminent Victorians" by me at the moment, but so far as I recollect Lytton Strachey says something to this effect: "The conception of Florence Nightingale as the saintly woman moving softly among the soldiers with a lamp, must go. The reality was different. A demon possessed her. Now whatever else they may be demons are interesting." And so it was with Joan. A few extracts from the Preface will help us to visualise the character so ably portrayed last night by Mrs. Beale. "She was the pioneer of rational dressing for women. . . . it is hardly surprising that she was judicially burnt. . . . essentially for what we call unwomanly and insufferable presumption. . . . At eighteen Joan's pretensions were beyond those of the proudest Pope or the haughtiest emperor. She claimed to be the ambassador and plenipotentiary of God. . . . Even if one does not agree with Shaw in all this one must realise his point of view when seeing or reading his play. A few more extracts:—

"She patronised her own king. . . . she lectured, talked down, and overruled statesmen and prelates. She took command of the plans of generals, leading their troops to victory on plans of her own. . . . As her condition was pure upstart, . . . One was that she was miraculous; the other that she was unbearable. When she was thwarted by men whom she thought fools, she made no secret of her opinion of them. . . . and she was naive enough to expect them to be obliged to her for setting them right."

Having shown us Joan as she must have appeared to her contemporaries, Shaw next compares her with Hercules and Napoleon, and shows how even at seventy the Greek philosopher was little wiser than the fury roused by their exalted stupidity of comparative dailiness. He then discusses the question which those ignorant of the real history of the time had thought was settled long ago—Was Joan Innocent or Guilty?—and in a remarkable analysis shows us that judgment went against Joan "after a very careful and conscientious trial." This judgment was reversed twenty-five years later because it was necessary to prove that Charles had been properly crowned—but as Shaw remarks:— "It is the more impressive reversed by a unanimous Posterity, culminating in her canonisation, that has quashed the original proceedings, and put her judges on trial, which, so far, has been much more unfair than their trial of her." And he adds "The mud that was thrown at her has dropped off by this time so completely that there is no need for any modern writer to wash up after it. What is far more difficult to get rid of is the mud that is being thrown at her judges, and the whitewash which disfigures her beyond recognition." It is impossible to follow Shaw further in his preface, fascinating though it would be to do so—for only by understanding the mind of the author

can we begin fully to appreciate the play which has resulted from the intense study of the period in which Joan lived. There is one further point which must be stressed, however, and that is Joan's social position. In Shakespeare's Henry VI. we find Joan thus describing herself:—

"I am by birth a shepherd's daughter, My wit untrained in any kind of art. Heaven and our Lady gracious hath it pleased To shine on my contemptible estate. Lo! whilst I waited on my tender lambs, God's mother deigned to appear to me. . . . And in a vision full of majesty Will'd me to leave my base vocation And free my country from calamity."

This, unfortunately, for the author of Henry VI. (for we can't be sure it was all Shakespeare) hardly represents the facts; and this mistaken view of Joan has given rise to an entirely false estimate of her character. "When she was called a shepherd lass to her face she very warmly resented it, and challenged any woman to compete with her in the household arts of the mistress of well furnished houses. . . . In short, much more of a young lady, and even of an intellectual, than most of the daughters of our petty bourgeoisie." The fact that she couldn't write her name was nothing—seven princesses were unable to do this.

We shall find it difficult to understand "Saint Joan" herself if we fail to realise her environment, and Shaw has gone out of his way to try and let us see this clearly. How many of us dare say that we dimly visualise even the material conditions of life in the fifteenth century? How much more difficult, then, a realisation of the mentality of those who so enthusiastically welcomed the Maid at first, and then so callously threw her overboard. To appreciate Dunois's speech when he says:—

"But I tell you as a soldier that God is no man's daily drudge, and no maid's either. . . . For he has to be fair to your enemy too; don't forget that. Well, he set us on our feet through you at Orleans; and the glory of it has carried us through a few good battles. . . . But if we presume on it further, and trust to God to do the work we should do ourselves, we shall be defeated. . . . And again when he emphasizes that "Joan never counts the cost at all; she goes ahead and trusts to God; and thinks she has God in her pocket, and thinks she can lead the French side to victory. . . . To appreciate these speeches and the mentality they display we must get to grips with the thought of the Middle Ages and separate what we supposed that they ought to have been thinking, from what in all probability they actually were thinking. Much that is spoken in the play would never have been spoken by real people living in the France of 1430; but only by making them say what he does—can Shaw give us an adequate idea of the feelings which eventually resulted in the burning of the Maid."

There is further the question of what the author calls "The Stage Limits of Historical Representation." An audience must bring its imagination to work here, and when they do, it will be clearly seen how cleverly we are enabled in 2½ hours to watch events which took many months in the actual performance. A bare outline of the six scenes will show how from the mass of historical evidence Shaw has selected those which are most vital in the determination of the crisis, and which lend themselves most readily to dramatic setting; this list alone will make us all realise the immensity of the labour undertaken and so successfully carried through by the producing staff.

Scene I. shows the castle of Vaucouleurs; and introduces the squire who eventually sends Joan off to see the Dauphin. As usual one must see the Dauphin in the opening scene, and this as it was played last night helps to start off the play on its successful run. Scene II. takes us to Chinon in Touraine and introduces us to the Court of France; and here Joan after proving that she knows the Dauphin and cannot be deceived is invested with the command of the Army—the scene closing dramatically with the leaders agree to follow the Maid to Orleans. The more one studies this scene the more one is amazed at the subtle touches which tell us all we ought to know.

Scene III. gives us Orleans itself and we meet Dunois who is to play such an important part in the subsequent proceedings. Here there is seen the "miracle" of the changed wind. Scene IV. introduces the sinister element into the play and we meet the English (hardly, as yet known by that name) in their camp. This scene might be studied with advantage by all students of medieval history for it presents most clearly to our minds the very essence of one side of medieval European thought.

We now move on swiftly to Scene V. (one of the great scenic triumphs of the play) in the Cathedral of Rheims, and we begin to see the disillusionment which

will eventually lead to disaster. Only Joan herself is still confident—the others are weary or fed up with her pretensions—until finally we reach the climax of the play in Scene VI. in the castle at Rouen where Joan is on trial for her life. One can imagine the strain of this scene on the actors by one's own; at times it seemed a sacrifice even to breathe—and the fall of the curtain brought relief to a situation which had grown well-nigh insupportable. Of the Epilogue we will not speak, our readers must judge for themselves when they see it—conflicting opinions are bound to be held on this, and we don't propose—nor is there space—to enter into any arguments on the subject.

And now for the play itself as we were able to see it done last night.

LAST NIGHT'S PERFORMANCE.

The effect upon one of the production was of wonder that such a piece of work could have been performed and staged here at all. It would need many columns to do anything like full justice to the producer, and to all those who so ably helped him and the enthusiastic audience showed quite unmistakably what they felt about it all. Outstanding was the performance of Joan by Mrs. Beale. She seemed to grow as the play unfolded, and from the simple country girl inspired by a message of freedom for her native land we saw her become a wondrous being, until in the epilogue she was too much for any of us on this earth. The interpretation of such a part will always be remarkable for any actress, and we consider Mrs. Beale is one of the few who could have conceived and carried out the part just as the author intended—reconciling the obvious difficulties, and preserving a balanced and understandable whole. Hongkong may indeed be proud to possess one who has so devotedly studied her part so that she was able to carry her audience with her throughout. Among the other characters I would plump heartily for Dunois. His range and clarity of voice put him quite by himself, and this is high praise where so much talent was displayed. To listen to him, however, was always a pure delight—and in this respect Shaw is not always very merciful, for he does not scruple to give long speeches which are apt to become wearisome, however eloquent they may be to read, if they are not spoken with a voice which will occasionally alter its tone and pitch. Mr. Lacey as the Dauphin was admirable, and played his difficult part with a fair which convinced us to one who was watching his every move, and in the Epilogue there was sufficient change to denote the passage of time. The part must have been a great strain on the voice.

The play opened well and Mr. Leys proved an admirable Baudricourt and carried off what must have been a difficult opening without a hitch. Late I was sorry that I could never feel very satisfied that the person in those gorgeous red robes was an Archbishop. His voice had not sufficient sympathy; and the Chamberlain might in places have been mistaken for the Court Jester, and as for his commanding an Army—one feels that the Dauphin was justified in his action in handing it over to the Maid! Dines heard played a difficult part well, and when we were able to see him carried off all as he was undoubtedly meant to be. There are few ladies in the cast, but what little they had to do was well done, and the Court scene was worthy of the "good old days" and one felt that The Duchess de la Tremouille, as she is described on the programme, was really a very fine lady.

It was impossible not to feel during that scene between Warwick, de Stogumber, and the Bishop of Beauvais that there would not have been so much crackling of chocolate papers among the audience if their attention had been more held by what was passing on the stage. Audiences naturally desire to eat during a performance of a play coming so soon after a large dinner and lasting for more than three hours, but if the three actors who did so well in all the other scenes could have put a little more life into their actions and voices during that scene one feels that the crackling would have been less pronounced. It is a difficult scene, but more action in it would tend to make the protagonists were much more effective. Stogumber in the Trial scene and an old man was remarkably convincing, while both the Bishop and Warwick (who somehow did not seem quite robust enough) grew perceptibly as the play continued. Perhaps one runs the risk of *l'excuse* myself, but I am bound to say that I should have recognised the Inquisitor even if his name had not been printed, though this is not to detract from the merit of the performance which was wholly admirable and a lesson to many of the younger actors how to employ different shades of voice production. Altogether an admirable Inquisitor and most convincing. The other characters were all effective, but no doubt a further critique will do more justice to them than there is either time or space for here.

I will just glance now at some rough notes made during the performance, though as we were passing on the dark all the time it is difficult to decipher what was handed to one when entering was really a fine production, and must have involved endless labour for all concerned. It gave one information which was really interesting, and one cannot wonder that Hongkong has such a list of dramatic successes to its credit. One feels that the name of Sinclair in this connection will be long remembered and not least for this his latest masterpiece. The Drop Curtain specially designed for this play was effective and showed the height of the full proscenium, though I feel sure that the shields could have been placed more effectively. The settings were wonderful, and the colour schemes a dream—and the celerity of the scene shifting and the noiselessness and general promptitude of the whole production a thing almost beyond belief on a first night. The settings were mainly arranged about an inner stage built up on three steps, and one saw how a wall became an open doorway, or how windows

(Continued on next column.)

A MILLION DOLLAR ESTATE.

MISSING CHINESE WILL.

INQUIRY IN THE SUPREME COURT.

In the Supreme Court yesterday, before the Chief Justice, Sir Henry Gollan, an action in the nature of an inquiry as to the possible existence of a will of the late Mr. Chan Afong, a wealthy trader who died eighteen years ago, was commenced.

The applicant was Mr. Chang Wing On, and five persons were cited as defendants, including the deceased's son. The applicant was represented by Mr. Elton Potter, K.C., with Mr. Easley Zeilyn, the second and fifth defendants being represented by Mr. C. G. Alabaster, K.C., and Mr. F. C. Jenkin appearing for the first and third.

Mr. Potter pointed out that the facts of the case were that Chan Afong died in the Kwangtung Province on September 25th, 1906. During his lifetime he was a sugar planter in Hawaii, and amassed a very large fortune, which could be put at about \$1,000,000. Chan married in 1932 a Chinese *kit fat*, and had two sons by her, and he also took to himself a Hawaiian lady, by whom he had a son named Chan Chik Yui.

In 1902 the deceased was in Macao, and then went to Hawaii with his eldest son, Chan Lung, in 1900. The son, the Hawaiian lady bore him was Mr. Chan Wing On. One of his sons, Chan Lung, died in Honolulu towards the end of 1900, and Chan Afong returned to China where he remained until his death.

Chan Wing On at the time of his grandfather's death was in Japan studying, but he returned to attend the funeral ceremonies, after which he was informed that his grandfather had left a will, and that he was to receive a share. That will was never produced, however. It was suggested by the deceased uncle that the estate should be distributed. In fact an interview took place, and the sum of \$20,000 was paid over to applicant. The deceased uncle told him this was his share in the estate, but the will was never produced.

A number of shares, so Chan Wing On discovered, were divided between the two uncles. The shares were in the Douglas Steamship Company, and were undoubtedly the property of Chan Afong. Another matter was that the uncles were preparing to deal with some property at Macao which belonged to Chan Afong.

Applicant commenced legal proceedings, and had the assignment set aside. By what right did the uncles act in this way? It soon became obvious to the applicant that the uncles had no intention of disclosing the will of Chan Afong. He sent two letters to the uncles demanding the production of the will, but received no reply.

However, in March, 1917, Chan Wing On had an interview with the executor of his deceased uncle, who told him he had found a document which would be a *will* against Chan Chik Yui, his uncle. He would not produce the document but tried to bargain with Wing On that he should release all claim on the estate of King Yui, the deceased son. The document had since been produced and was of a testamentary nature, and under it Chan Afong's two sons were to receive \$150,000 each, and his three grandsons to receive \$40,000 each, and the residue was to go to the Yat Chi Tong.

Evidence was given by Chan King Yui, old Chan Chik Yui. The latter stated he was the son of the Hawaiian lady, whose name was "Julia."

Mr. Zeilyn began his cross-examination and his Lordship pointed out that he was making a searching inquiry into matters that were not relevant.

In reply to questions witness said the property his father left was in Honolulu and China, and he made distributions to members of the family from the estate. These distributions were made over ten years ago, but a Chinese chemist shop which he made over to his brother was not the property of his father. It was the business of his brother and himself and belonged to them only. He could not remember whether he made over 200 shares in the Douglas Steamship Company to his brother. He paid Wing On 140,000 in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares, which were his property, and paid his own sons \$40,000 each, and his daughter \$1,000.

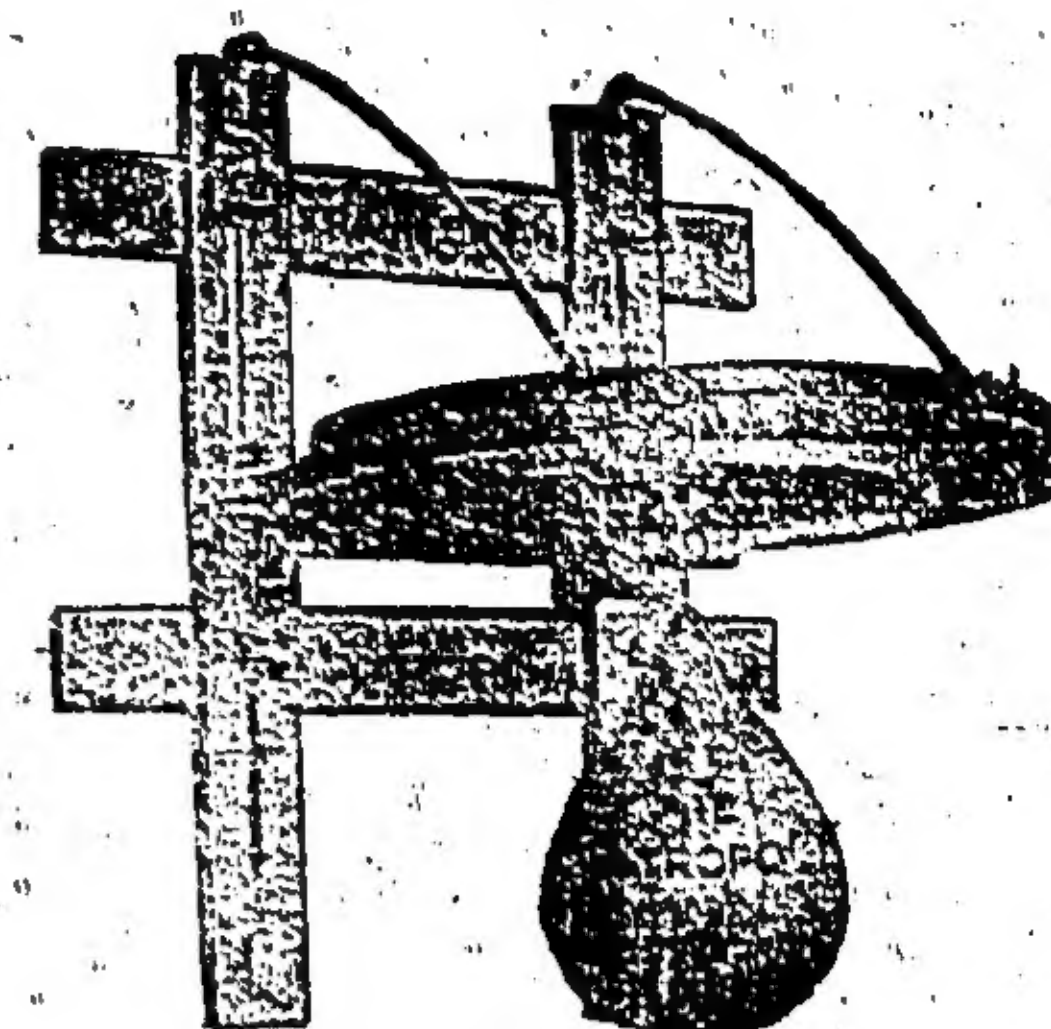
At this stage his Lordship adjourned the hearing until 10.15 this morning.

and backcloths were effectively used for different scenes. But we must make one protest and that is about the method of lighting. Surely never could a production have been so nearly ruined. There were no footlights, a special platform having been built over the place usually occupied by lights, but there were several admirable lights at the side of the stage and several other lights off stage. But the main lighting was done from the dress circle, and occasionally one felt that the various lights travel onto the leading figure or onto the speaking actor. This became a menace in the Cathedral scene when first one character then another was thrown into relief, while the remainder of the cast were dim shadows. And there could be no pretence that this was any imitation of reality for one could not conceive such lighting in a cathedral. We were glad that the Trial scene was not ruined by these methods, and with all the deference to the able producer we suggest that his lights come from one place and stay there throughout the scene unless the sun or the moon are going to rise. It would be a dreadful calamity to ruin such a production by lighting which could so easily be altered.

The dresses and the armour were most effective, and worn by their owners as if they had been accustomed to the uncomfortable dress all their lives. And the Russian artists had done their work beautifully. We most heartily congratulate Mr. Sinclair, and I personally thank him and all his associates for a most thrilling evening.

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NOTICE.

"ST. JOAN"

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HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Club will be held in the Jockey Club Room, Hongkong Club, at 5.30 P.M. on **THURSDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 1925**, for the purpose of proposing a Resolution to adopt the Revised Rules and Regulations and Rules of Racing of the Club.

A Copy of the Revised Rules and Regulations and Rules of Racing may be inspected by Members at the Office of the Secretary upon application.

By Order,
C. B. BROWN,
Secretary.

1719

IMPORTANT FACTORY IN MOROCCO ARTICLES SEEKS REPRESENTATIVE.

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HONGKONG & SHANGHAI HOTELS, LTD.,
2nd Floor at Address given. [1715]

EAST ASIATIC CO. LTD. COPENHAGEN.

THE M/S "ANNAM" having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed and placed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., where delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 15th of January, 1925, 4 p.m. will be subject to Rent. All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined by Messrs. Anderson & Askie on the 17th of January, 1925, at 10 a.m. All Claims against the Vessel must be presented to the Underwriter before the 22nd of January, 1925, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **JOHN MANNERS & CO., LTD.** Agents.

Hongkong, 11th January, 1925. [1716]

LLOYD TRIESTINO S.N. CO.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

The Steamship "VENEZIA."

From TRIESTE, VENICE, BRINDISI, PORT SAID, MASSAUA, ADEN, COLOMBO, PENANG and SINGAPORE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, where delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless Notice to the contrary be given before 10th instant.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 23rd inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 16th inst., at 10 a.m., by our Surveyors, Messrs. GORDON & DONALD.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **DODWELL & CO., LTD.** Agents.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1925. [1714]

S.S. "AMBOISE."

COMPAGNIE DES MESSEGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from MARSEILLE, BORDEAUX, etc., and also Cargo from BORDEAUX, etc., are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, where delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless Notice to the contrary be given before 10th instant.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 23rd inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 16th inst., at 10 a.m., by our Surveyors, Messrs. GORDON & DONALD.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **R. KODENFUSER** Agent.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1925. [1704]

INTIMATIONS

HONGKONG DEVELOPMENT, BUILDING & SAVINGS SOCIETY, LTD.

NOTICE OF ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **FIRST ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the Company will be held at the **CITY HALL, HONGKONG** on **SATURDAY, the 17th JANUARY, 1925**, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Reports of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the period from the 25th December, 1923, to the 30th September, 1924, and also for election of Directors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th January to the 17th January, 1925, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
EDWARD B. RAYMOND,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 8th January, 1925. [1708]

HERBERT JAMES BRIDGES NORTON, DECEASED.

ALL Persons Firms or Corporations having any Claims against or any Monies or Securities belonging to the Estate of the above deceased (late of the Hongkong Hotel) are requested to Send Particulars thereof to the Underwriter.

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,
Principals, Building.
Solicitors for the Administrator.
Hongkong 9th January, 1925. [1711]

MR. A. G. STEPHEN, DECEASED.

PERSONS Having Claims against the Estate of the Late **MR. A. G. STEPHEN** are requested to Send the Same to the Underwriter forthwith.

JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,
Principals, Building.
Hongkong, 9th January, 1925. [1709]

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[1699]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

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ARRIVED HONGKONG ON 8th JANUARY, 1925.

FROM ANTWERP, LONDON, GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, PORTSAID, ADEN, COLOMBO AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above named Vessel are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, where delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless Notice to the contrary be given before 10th instant.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 16th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 23rd inst., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 16th inst., at 10 a.m., by our Surveyors, Messrs. GORDON & DONALD.

No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **MACKINTOSH, MACKENZIE & CO.,** Agents.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1925. [1711]

INTIMATIONS

THE STAR FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the **STAR FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED**, will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO., Limited, 14th day of JANUARY, 1925, at Noon, when the Subjoined Resolution will be proposed as an Extraordinary Resolution:

(a) That the following Article shall be inserted after Article 110 of the Articles of Association:

(b) The Company in any time General Meeting may at any time pass a Resolution to the effect that it is desirable to capitalise any sum or sums of money being part of the Undivided Profits of the Company standing to the credit of the Company's Reserve Fund, and accordingly that such sum or sums be distributed as a Bonus among the Members in proportion to the Shares held by them respectively, and that the Directors be authorised to distribute among the Members any Undivided Profits or New Shares in like proportion.

(c) When any such Resolution as that referred to in the preceding paragraph shall have been passed, the Directors may allot and issue to the Members as nearly as may be in proportion to the Shares held by them respectively, and in satisfaction of the said Bonus, the Unissued Shares or New Shares (credited as Fully Paid Up Shares) to the extent of the proportionate amount payable to such Members in respect of the Reserve Fund, with full provision for the issue of Fractional Certificates or otherwise as they may think expedient for the case of fractions, and prior to such allotment the Directors may authorise any person on behalf of the Members to enter into any Agreement with the Company providing for the allotment through the issue of such Shares credited as Fully Paid Up Shares as aforesaid, and in satisfaction as aforesaid, and any Agreement made under such authority shall be effective.

(d) It shall be no objection to Resolutions passed under paragraph (b) of the Article that they are passed at the Meeting at which the Resolution introducing this Article is confirmed as a Special Resolution, provided that due notice of the intention to propose such Resolutions has been given prior to the Meeting.

2.—AND NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **SEVENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING** of the **STAR FERRY COMPANY, LIMITED**, will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO., Limited, 14th day of JANUARY, 1925, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Eight months ended on the 31st day of December, 1924.

3.—AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that a further **EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the above Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO., Limited, on **MONDAY, the 2nd day of FEBRUARY, 1925**, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Eight months ended on the 31st day of December, 1924.

4.—AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that an **ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** of the above Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. JARDINE, MATTHEWS & CO., Limited, on **MONDAY, the 2nd day of FEBRUARY, 1925**, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the Eight months ended on the 31st day of December, 1924.

5.—AND NOTICE IS HEREBY ALSO GIVEN that the **TRANSFER BOOKS** of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th January to the 17th January, 1925, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. B. BROWN,
Secretary.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1925. [1700]

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INTIMATIONS

In the days of the reign

Of King Philip of Spain,

When corpulent monks ruled the roost,

The stoutest of all,

Brother Francis of Gaul,

In SHERRY the whole world

would toast.

Fine SHERRIES

Grown, Bottled and Shipped by

GEO. G. SANDEMAN SONS

& Co.

Xeres de la Frontera.

Light Dry ... \$35.00

Solera ... 37.00

Very Pale Dry ... 38.00

Pale Dry Nutty ... 40.00

Fine Old Brown ... 44.00

Invalid ... \$38.00

Pouro ... 40.00

Old Tawny ... 44.00

Estrella ... 46.00

Very Old Tawny ... 58.00

Oldest & Finest ... 61.00

and Fine PORTS

Invalid ... \$38.00

Pouro ... 40.00

Old Tawny ... 44.00

Estrella ... 46.00

Very Old Tawny ... 58.00

Oldest & Finest ... 61.00

Invalid ... \$38.00

Pouro ... 40.00

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CABLES.

LATEST CABLE.
[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
FINANCIAL CONFERENCE.

BRITISH PRESS COMMENT IS RESTRAINED.
London, January 11th.
Comment on the Allied Agreement is generally restrained pending clarification of the position; but the compromise reached is considered quite satisfactory as far as it goes.

The Times says it will be a definite gain if the two main points on the agenda—namely allotment of the Dawes scheme receipts and the disposal of the proceeds of the Franco-Belgian occupation of the Ruhr—do not recur at a future conference.

M. HERMIOT SATISFIED.

Paris, January 12th.
Le Petit Journal has interviewed M. Herriot, who said the Financial Conference was carrying on its work under most favourable conditions and the results would be certainly very valuable.

EARLIER CABLES.

SMALLER POWERS HEARD.

Paris, January 11th.
The committee of experts entrusted with preparing the ground work of the Financial Conference this morning heard statements by the Finance Ministers of the smaller Powers, such as Roumania and Serbia, who did not participate in the preparation of the preliminary report and wished to protest against certain points in the report concerning them.

The committee also heard Viscount Lami with regard to Shanghai, and the Brazilian Ambassador with regard to the German properties sequestered in Brazil.

All questions were settled to the satisfaction of the parties.

AMOUNTS NOT DIVULGED.

It is learned that the details of the agreement of the Conference published from a French source are mainly accurate in regard to broad principles, but any figures of the amounts payable to the different Powers are mere guesses, inasmuch as important factors, such as the total German deliveries in kind during the occupation of the Ruhr, are subject to valuation by the Reparations Commission.

It is agreed that Belgium should receive a full eight per cent. of the reparations during the first Dawes year, and possibly the second if necessary in order to extinguish her priority. Otherwise, Belgium will receive during the second year 4 1/2 per cent. plus the remainder of two milliards of gold marks, priority to which had been conceded her as which has not yet been paid.

One hundred and sixty million gold marks will be debited to Dawes annuities for the costs of the French and Belgian armies of occupation. This sum will defray the cost of the difference between the maintenance of the troops in Germany and at home.

As regards the British and American agreement the army costs will be spread over 20 years from the Wadsworth Agreement of May, 1923, while payment of reparations is extended over the whole period of the Dawes annuities in the form of a "mixed percentage" beginning from the extinction of Belgian priority.

The British have not accepted the American figure of 350 million dollars as American reparations, and a compromise agreement provides for an annual percentage the capital value of which will be less than the American figure. America will receive no interest except on arrears between May, 1923, and the commencement of the payments to America under the Dawes Plan. The British attach most importance to this agreement, which brings America officially into the reparation pool.

Later.

According to two newspapers, the American percentage of Germany's annual payments in ten yearly instalments, from September, 1923, by a proportionate reduction of the Italian share of annuities under the Dawes scheme.

FRENCH PRESS COMMENT.

Commenting on yesterday's meeting of the Allied Finance Conference, Le Petit Parisien says that Japan demanded 32 million gold marks for repayment of expenses in connection with Shanghai. Le Journal says that the United States apparently accepted in principle a five years' moratorium in regard to her debt.

Le Petit Journal expresses the opinion that the suggestion that France and Italy should surrender a small percentage of their debt will probably form the basis of discussions anyhow with Great Britain.

Le Matin says that if Great Britain agrees to take a Balfour Note as a basis of settlement, the French debt will be comparatively easy.

ITALY RECEIVES TOO MUCH.

Paris, January 11th.
It is announced here that Italy, who has received from Germany, especially by deliveries in kind, more than her quota of ten per cent. under the Spa percentages, owes the reparations account four hundred million gold marks.

This surplus will be paid into the reparations account in ten yearly instalments, from September, 1923, by a proportionate reduction of the Italian share of annuities under the Dawes scheme.

LATEST CABLES.

MR. CHARLES HUGHES.
GENEROUS TRIBUTES BY BRITISH PRESS.

London, January 11th.
Tributes, couched in the most generous terms, are paid to Mr. Charles Hughes, U.S. Secretary of State, on his retirement, by all papers. They describe him as an "undeniably big statesman, who made himself an honoured place. He is recognised as having been the real promoter of the Washington Conference and to have done much to secure America's intervention in the reparations difficulties."

VIEWS OF FRENCH PRESS.

Paris, January 12th.
L'Echo de Paris expresses the opinion that Mr. Hughes designed because he is inclined to participate in European affairs, in disagreement with President Coolidge and the Senate.

Le Petit Journal declares Mr. Kellogg has striven for years to achieve a common Anglo-American policy. Mr. Kellogg's assumption of office probably will mean consolidation and development of an Anglo-American entente.

Le Journal interprets the resignation of Mr. Hughes and the appointment of Mr. Kellogg as meaning that the United States recognise that in regard to the Dawes plan they cannot participate in European affairs without entanglement therein.

WHO WILL SUCCEED KELLOGG?

Washington, January 11th.
The Ambassador to Berlin, Mr. Hough, now appears the most favoured candidate for the London Ambassadorship in succession to Mr. Kellogg. The appointment would be in accord with the policy of promotions adopted by the Administration.

It is understood President Coolidge is anxious to retain Mr. Herriot in the French Ambassadorship, which is regarded as the most important after the British, owing to Mr. Herriot's grasp of French affairs.

BOARD OF TRADE RETURNS.

London, January 12th.
The Board of Trade returns for December are: imports £131,600,000 and exports £69,307,000.
Compared to November the figures show increases of £12,469,000 and £1,157,000 respectively.

M.C.C. IN AUSTRALIA.

RAIN SPOILS MATCH AGAINST BALLARAT.

Ballarat, January 12th.
The match between the M.C.C. and fifteen of Ballarat was drawn.
In reply to the home side's first innings of 165, the M.C.C. scored 80.
Heane scored 50 and Kiner 64. Ballarat had lost 13 wickets for 154 runs when rain fell at 5.35 p.m. and the match had to be abandoned. Auster scored 61. Howell took 5 wickets for 23 and Tyldesley 6 for 37.

EARLIER CABLES.

INTERNATIONAL RUGBY.

NEW ZEALANDERS GAIN ANOTHER VICTORY.

Paris, January 11th.
The New Zealand Rugby team, the "All Blacks," defeated the French fifteen by 37 points to 8. The match was played to-day at Colombes.

POLITICS IN GERMANY.

DOCTOR LUTHER TRYING TO FORM MINISTRY.

Berlin, January 11th.
The Finance Minister, Doctor Luther, whom President Ebert invited to form a Ministry, has not yet succeeded in securing the support of the Centreists, which will be necessary to enable him to rely on a Reichstag majority, but conversations with them and the other parties are continuing.

CUSTOMS IN PERSIA.

EXEMPTIONS FOR TEN YEARS GRANTED.

Tehran, January 11th.
Parliament has sanctioned for ten years the exemption from Customs duties of agricultural and technical machinery, except machines connected with weaving, printing and cigarette making.

LACK OF EVIDENCE.

EGYPTIAN SUSPECT RELEASED AT CAIRO.

Cairo, January 11th.
The Egyptian agitator, Abdel Rahman, has been released on the grounds of lack of evidence of complicity in the Sirdar's murder.

SOVIET LIQUOR MONOPOLY.

Moscow, January 11th.
The Soviet Government are considering a Bill to establish a wine and spirit monopoly.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Moscow, January 11th.
M. Jean Herbet has arrived here to assume the French Ambassadorship.

FAR EASTERN CABLE NEWS.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
SINGAPORE BASE.

IMPORTANT AIR STATION MAY BE ESTABLISHED.

London, January 11th.
The Daily Express says that the establishment of a large and important air station at Singapore will be considered, in connection with the naval base.

DR. SUN YAT SEN.

A FULL FLEDGED AMERICAN.

An "Old Honolulu Resident," writing from Shanghai, to the Peking Daily News says:—

"I was very much interested to read the letter of Eric Lawson, late Police Commissioner of Bangkok, in the London Times (reproduced recently in the Hongkong Daily Press), that Dr. Sun Yat Sen claimed American citizenship when he was in Siam some years ago. As an old resident of Honolulu, I have good reason to know that Dr. Sun Yat Sen had every right to claim American citizenship. Although his forefathers for several generations back were Chinese, apart from his American citizenship conferred upon him by virtue of his being born in Honolulu his mother was a Hawaiian woman (and therefore an American subject) and moreover both his grandmothers were also natives of Hawaii (American subject). So if Dr. Sun Yat Sen could not be classed as an American citizen, I should like to know who could."

"One of Sun Yat Sen's Victims," writing to the Peking paper, says:—

"Old Honolulu Resident's letter regarding Dr. Sun Yat Sen's parentage and birthplace, published in the Peking Daily News this morning, throws light regarding certain parts of his life in Canton which had been puzzling us for a long time."

"It had been a wonder to the Chinese how a Chinese could uphold all Chinese traditions the way he did in his efforts to raise money in Kwangtung, so-called his native Province. Bad as it was to depend for his means of support on the revenue derived from the taxes on the brothels, prostitutes, opium and gambling dens, such means might be excused when it comes to a pinch."

"But when he imposed a tax on the coffins deposited in the temples while awaiting burial, and ordered his men to throw the dead bodies out of the temples into the streets when those unfortunate families to whom the coffins belonged were unable to pay the contributions demanded, and when he even went so far as to levy a tax on the graveyards, he violated every sense of decency from the Chinese point of view."

"Such things no Chinese could do under any circumstances, anywhere, not to mention in his native place."
"Old Honolulu Resident's letter now explains everything. Dr. Sun Yat Sen was born in Hawaii, and not in Macao, in the Province of Kwangtung as claimed, and in spite of his Chinese name he has little Chinese blood in his veins, being nearly of pure Hawaiian blood. So his recent burning and looting of Canton and slaughtering of the helpless inhabitants without any compunction can be easily explained as the acts of a alien enemy in the territory he had conquered."

ALLEGED FORGERY.

YOUTH'S WITS. THE HONGKONG BANK.

A young man entered the premises of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at Harbin recently and presented a cheque of the Peking Branch drawn on London, for the sum of £3,600.

The cheque was apparently quite genuine but the management considered it better to telegraph to Peking asking whether they might pay the amount out in Harbin, as the bearer had decided not to go to London.

The young man, named Semenoff, was asked to come back in a couple of days and when he did so, he was stopped by the bank staff and handed over to the police. It is alleged that the reply from Peking was to the effect that the cheque was issued for the sum of £2 only, and that the amount entered had been forged. The police are now investigating.

RUSSIAN PETROLEUM.

VAST INCREASE IN EXPORT TRADE.

Moscow, January 11th.
The Naphtha Syndicate announces, according to the Rosta Agency, that during the past economic year the Soviet exported 712,000 tons of petroleum compared with 210,000 tons in 1922-1923. An article in the Pravda by Mr. Lemov, President of the Syndicate, asserts that the exports this year will total 1,124,000 tons, and that the price will be reduced by 20 per cent.

DEATHS FROM EXPOSURE.

BLIZZARDS AND TIDAL WAVES IN TRANS-CAUCASIA.

Moscow, January 11th.
Fifty deaths from exposure are reported from Trans-Caucasia, where unusually severe weather continues with blizzards and tidal waves.

Ten thousand cattle perished. Packs of wolves, wild boars and other animals, driven from the mountains by hunger, are ravaging the lowlands.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN CHINA.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]
SHANGHAI HOSTILITIES.

WILL IT ENTAIL FURTHER FIGHTING?

PUBLIC OPINION DIVIDED.

SHANGHAI, January 12th.

Public opinion, both Foreign and Chinese, appears divided regarding the significance of the hostilities near Shanghai. Some think it is merely of local importance; others believe it was probably inspired from Peking and may bring about a general resumption of war.

The exponents of the latter view point out that the fighting synchronised with Marshal Chang Tso Lin's departure from Tientsin for Mukden. They draw attention, also, to the continual recruiting on the part of Feng Yu Hsiang, Sun Yueh and Hu Ching Yi and the fact that Hsiao Yao Nan's appointment as Tsupan of Hupeh was intended to check Hu Ching Yi's march against Hankow, where he intended to take over the Hanyang Arsenal.

On the other hand, official circles are not greatly agitated over the Shanghai situation, asserting that Lu Yung Hsiang has been instructed to take the necessary measures to enforce his authority; and there is no real danger of Feng Yu Hsiang striking while a portion of the Fengtien troops is engaged in Kiangsu.

It is reported to-day that Feng has applied for another month's leave—a fact which does not tend to clear up the situation.

LOOTING AT SHANGHAI.

SHANGHAI, January 12th.

There was some looting by Chang Yuen Ming's scattered soldiers in the Chinese City this morning, but it was not serious. The police, for the most part, are able to control the situation there.

Two companies of Volunteers were demobilised this afternoon, two others are still standing by.

The panic mentioned last evening was only among sightseers, who went out to Sicaavel to witness the fighting and who were somewhat scared when shots whistled near them. Shanghai, on the whole, was tranquil throughout the fighting.

UNDER DUAL CONTROL.

The native city, Kiangnan Arsenal and Lung-hwa Yamen are now firmly under the dual control of Generals Sun Chuan Fang and Chi Hsieh Yuan.

Between Sunday night and this morning, the bulk of Chang Yuen Ming's forces, about 6,000 men; entered the French Concession and surrendered their arms. Temporary camps have been established for them. Looting troops are in control, and the refugee influx into the Settlement and French Concession is increasing, owing to the fear of further attacks.

FALL OF THE ARSENAL.

SHANGHAI, January 11th.

General Sun Chuan Fang this afternoon captured the Arsenal and Lung-hwa.

General Chang Yuen Ming fled, taking refuge in the International Settlement. This evening, General Sun's troops, despite the close proximity of General Chang's forces to the Settlement again attacked.

Hundreds of shots fell into the Settlement, breaking windows and creating a panic.

A body of General Chang's men rushed through down the Settlement, throwing down their arms.

A Machine Gun Company of the Japanese Volunteers has been sent to aid the French Volunteers.

CHI SPRINGS SURPRISE.

Yesterday's fighting came as a great surprise to Shanghai people as Chi Hsieh Yuan has since his flight from Nanking been living in the Shanghai Settlement, apparently eliminated, but last week he quietly brought up troops, left his house in the Settlement on Saturday night and went to Chapei where he threw his Sixth and Nineteenth Divisions into the attack on Chang Yuen Ming, while Sun Chuan Fang marched up from Hsinchuang.

Chang Yuen Ming's troops occupied the Arsenal a few days ago without fighting, and the main fighting yesterday was round the Arsenal.

During the fighting yesterday afternoon, one French marine was wounded in the leg by a stray bullet.

TO ATTACK SOOCHOW.

Considerable numbers of General Chang's troops entered the Settlement peacefully and were disarmed. The remainder of his forces scattered.

Generals Chi Hsieh Yuan and Sun Chuan Fang now apparently completely control this district, and it is understood that they intend marching forth with to attack Soochow, where one division is stationed who were formerly Chi Hsieh Yuan's men but are now considered Lu Yung Hsiang's adherents. If Chi Hsieh Yuan is successful at Soochow, as anticipated, he will then advance towards Nanking.

(Continued on next Column).

CANTON NEWS.

[FROM OUR CHINESE CORRESPONDENT.]
THE NEW YEAR SETTLEMENT.

It will be exceedingly fortunate in Canton in the coming settlement before the Chinese New Year if the merchants are able to collect more than 40 per cent. of their outstanding accounts, is a leading vernacular paper's comment on the business situation. The reign of terror under the Bolshevik administration together with the unceasing levy of exorbitant war taxes and persecution of merchants on charges of treason against the Kuomintang regime are killing all lines of trade. The Canton Customs revenue, an index to local trade for 1923, has shown a decrease by Tls. 101,860. The 1924 collection was only Tls. 3,741,100.

A SALT FAMINE FEARED.

To relieve the salt famine feared in districts in South Hunan, accessible through Canton, it has been decided by the Canton-Hankow Railroad, Kwangtung Section, to exempt salt transportation from the 20 per cent. increase on tariff rates. Since the Kuomintang military control of the line, the tariff has been several times revised, the present rates being about 50 per cent. higher than the days before Bolshevik control.

TROUBLES OF DYE INDUSTRY.

The jam-dyeing industry in Yam-po and towns along the Canton-Samshui Railroad, which has been suspended for the last two months as a protest against further war taxation by the Kuomintang Bolsheviks controlling the territory, will be closed altogether before the Chinese New Year to avert the usual necessary year-end settlements among the Chinese business men. This industry involves more than a million dollars worth of capital in Yam-po alone, giving employment to thousands of men and women in the neighbourhood.

OPIMUM BURNING.

The 327th burning of opium and opium-smoking utensils took place in front of the Canton Customs, West Bund, on January 12th, when articles destroyed included native opium 143.50 taels; foreign opium 71 taels; opium utensils to the value of Hk. Tls. 157.33; and other articles.

LIMESTONE MONOPOLY WANTED.

"Mr. Lo Shun Chiu, of Tsing Yuen" is asking the Commissioner for Finance Affairs in Canton to allow him the sole monopoly for the export of limestone from his district. For a time the export of limestone was restricted in order to assure the local cement works at Canton a maximum supply at a minimum cost.

TAXATION OF RICKSHA COOLIES.

Upon petition of the Canton ricksha coolies, the authorities have withdrawn their order levying 30 cents war contributions from each ricksha coolie daily. A similar levy was ordered about 18 months ago and is still in progress. The present withdrawal relates to the second levy.

SHANGHAI CHINESE BOYCOTT THE TELEPHONE.

A PROTEST AGAINST A HIGHER TARIFF.

The majority of Shanghai's leading Chinese hotels, restaurants, tea-houses, clubs and many widely patronised stores and guilds, says the Shanghai Evening News of the 8th inst., are to-day without telephones as a result of the increase in its tariff put into operation on the first of the year by the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Company, Limited.

Strong opposition to the introduction of the higher scale of charges was manifested by Shanghai's Chinese community several weeks ago and the Union of Hotels, Restaurants and Tea-Houses broadcasted an ultimatum that should the new tariff be enforced, it would boycott the telephone.

An effort was made at the same time to induce the Shanghai Mutual Telephone Company to keep to the rate which has been in force for years, but the management of the organization, has ignored all communications, being determined, apparently, to take a step which had been authorised by the Shanghai Municipal Council.

Since January 1st, hundreds of telephones in the International Settlement have been disconnected, notably among these being those hitherto subscribed to by the Great Eastern, the Oriental and Yih Ping Shang Hotels and the Ningpo Association. Several other well known organizations are listed among the boycotters.

THE HARBIN AMNESTY.

Peking, January 11th.

A later report from Harbin states that the Chinese Judge in the District Court announced that the amnesty applies to Ostroff, Condatti and Michalovitch, but that the men will not be set free until official instructions are received from the Ministry of Justice, probably within a few days.

PEKING MANDATES.

Peking, January 11th.

Three mandates were issued last night. The first abolishes the post of Tsupan of Hupeh, the second appoints Hsiao Yao Nan Tsupan of Military Affairs of Hupeh, and the third appoints Hsiao Yao Nan Acting Civil Governor of Hupeh.

HANYANG ARSENAL.

CHANG TSO LIN AND HSIAO REACH AGREEMENT.

Peking, January 11th.

Reports from Tientsin state that Chang Tso Lin and Hsiao Yao Nan have agreed that the former should appoint his own man to take charge of the Hanyang Arsenal.

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(Continued on next Column).

ARMED ROBBERS.

TWO GANGS IN ACTION YESTERDAY.

Armed robbers continue to ply their nefarious trade in our midst almost daily. About noon yesterday, five men, of whom one carried a revolver, and two a dagger apiece, entered the apartment of a Chinese accountant at No. 100, Alpha Street. While the occupants were held at bay by the armed men, the other two robbers collected a quantity of cash and jewellery, the total value of which is not stated in the Police report.

FAILURE AT WYNDHAM STREET.

Five men, armed with revolvers, visited No. 39, Wyndham Street, at 8 p.m. yesterday, but were frightened off before they could steal anything. It is believed the robbers were alarmed on hearing approaching footsteps.

S.S. "AMHERST."

WELL-KNOWN VESSEL BECOMES CHINESE GUNBOAT.

The Master of the s.s. *Bornen* has reported to the Harbour Office that the s.s. *Amherst* is at Huihow, and has become a Chinese gunboat. The *Amherst* is a vessel with a history. The vessel, 211 tons net, was built in 1887 by Messrs. Blackwood and Gordon at Glasgow. The ship came from Singapore where it was employed in the stone carrying trade. In the course of her career the *Amherst* has changed her flag to Chinese, then Chilean and now back to Chinese.

In spite of her small dimensions, at one time the *Amherst* was engaged in running to London and Fremantle in the sandalwood trade.

Her different skipper include Mr. T. Thirlwell now of the Taikoo tug, a Mr. Jones and a Mr. J. Anderson.

SOLDIER IN TROUBLE.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A GUNNER.

Two artillerymen, Gunners A. Pepler and W. Jullif, appeared on remand before Mr. J. R. Wood at the Central Magistracy yesterday, the former charged with a serious offence against an 11-year-old Chinese girl, and the latter with abetting him.

Both were discharged, the Magistrate remarking that it was a case of mistaken identity.

Gunner J. Ellement, who appeared just afterwards, and was charged with the first-mentioned offence with regard to the child, was remanded for a week in military custody.

PREMYSLAV RECITAL.

TWO FINISHED PERFORMERS AT THE STAR.

A large audience of Kowloon music-lovers were loud in their applause at the Star Theatre last night, when the famous Polish musicians, Leopold Premyslav (Violinist), and his wife Eugenie Premyslav (Cellist), gave a delightful recital.

Great enthusiasm was aroused by Leopold Premyslav's admirable rendering of Chopin's Nocturne in D-major, while the performance of Poppo's "Papillon" by his wife was received with no less appreciation.

The two concluding items of the programme, duos for violin and cello (Giere's "Prelude" and "Scherzo") by the talented couple, pleased the audience greatly.

The full programme was as under:—

1.—(a) Sonata G-minor Tartini.
Moderato Presto Largo Allegretto.
(b) Variations Corelli.
(Violin)

2.—Suite D-major (17th century)
Chax de Herveleux.
Prelude Grave.
Allegro.
Menuet.
Piaante.
La Neapolitaine. (Cello).

3.—(a) Introduction et Tarentelle Sarasate.
(b) Nocturne D-major Chopin.
(c) Souvenir de Moscou. Wieniawsky. (Violin)

4.—(a) Canzonetta Godard.
(b) Andante Haydn.
(c) Papillon Poppo.
(Cello).

5.—(a) Prelude Gliere.
(b) Scherzo (Violin and Cello).
God Save the King.

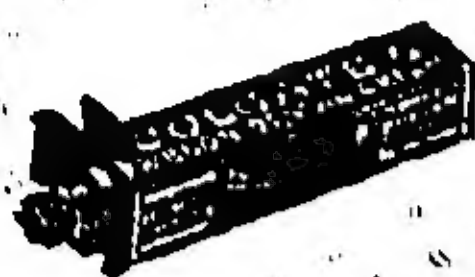
Mr. Harry Ore, at the piano, accompanied in his usual finished style.

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PARIS FASHIONS.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, ISABEL RAMSAY.)

PARIS, December 7th. The winter gaiety of Paris had an almost official introduction last week in the re-opening of Les Aenclies, the famous dance hall, by the equally famous Harry Piller. The whole atmosphere of the place has been rendered more intimate by the new decorations, which are as lavish and modern as the heart of any cabaret could wish, but unlike so many of the other cabarets of Paris where decorations occupy the first place in importance and dancing comfort the second, the floor-space at Les Aenclies is as roomy as ever. Murray Piller's celebrated orchestra of eleven play the latest New York dance hits and his Argentine ensemble supply the tangy numbers, whilst Harry Piller manages things generally.

A raffle of gowns from the best couturiers, and of jewellery from the best rue de la Paix jewellers, was one of the many features of the opening night, the drawing being conducted by St. Granier, from the Casino de Paris, who received tumultuous applause when he appeared. A number of English and American notabilities were present, whilst from the Parisian stage came Mistinguett, fresh from her triumphs in America, Maude Loti and Madame Marthe Renzier. The occasion was a particularly dressy one, the slender and frocks scoring a triumph of numbers as well as of grace.

The Sunday dinners at the Ritz have also become more popular and smart, if either were possible, since Paris got well into its swing of winter gaiety. The last one was graced by the presence of the Brazilian Ambassador in London and Madame de Gama, who were dining with Mrs. William Hayward. Mr. and Mrs. Victor Surcouf, including the Duchesse d'Uzes, that remarkable figure in French society, whose name heads the lists of countless literary and philanthropic committees (included amongst which is the presidency of the Paris branch of the Lyceum Club) and who, despite her advanced years, still rides to hounds.

The gown which provided the sensation of the evening was a robe de style of pastel blue tulle trimmed with rose-coloured streamers. The effect of an old-fashioned gown of this type with its full skirts, its ruffled petticoats and its bouffant outlines, worn with very modern shingled hair, is distinctly pleasing despite what might seem an incongruous combination. It requires a woman with a certain type to wear successfully a robe de style, but when a woman has this type, she should wear nothing else, for there is nothing so distinctive and quaint-looking as a robe de style. Particularly are they becoming to the girl in her teens who, although she may be pretty enough and even graceful enough, has not quite grown out of the awkward, angular stage of her existence. I noted this fact the other evening at the concert which Kreisler gave at the Opera and at which all Paris that could cram into this mighty building was present. As usual, on such occasions, the pupils from the smart-finish schools in Paris were there in a mass, chaperoned by their governesses who do naught in life but conduct their charges to the art galleries, classical theatres and highbrow concerts of Paris. Almost without exception, all these girls wore robe de style evening frocks, made of tulle in various shades of blue, mauve, green and pink. One or two, who had perhaps escaped the eye of the department mistress, wore frocks that almost swept the floor, and added to the old-world effect that this produced by parting their hair in the middle, plastering it down each side of the head and drawing the length of hair at the back, which clasped them in the flapper stage, round to the front in a long curl.

The result was so like a figure from an old-fashioned picture that everybody turned to look at these Sweet Sixteens as they promenade in chattering groups down the brilliant foyer during the entr'actes.

Next in importance to evening gowns and wraps at this time of the year come the hats which the modistes are launching for the Cote d'Azur and Palm Beach season. The new hats show very simple, close-fitting forms that follow the outline of the head closely and employ a very narrow brim. Lewis, who continues to be one of the greatest designers of hats Paris has yet produced, shows a wide variety of models in his Riviera collection, but the massive perfection of line for which he is famous, persists in them all.

Small, helmet shapes of bright-coloured straw are what he is showing for the warm season down South. One enchanting little creation shows a wide, cyclamen-coloured straw used in the construction of a small helmet, which is trimmed with bands of self-colour ribbon. Another helmet is of black satin and is trimmed with bands of ribbon, which traverse the crown and are finished with a semi-circular motif of pleated satin ribbon placed at the top of the crown, and, by this, giving the mounting effect which is being stressed by some of the milliners just now almost to the point of despair. In fact, it is rare to see a hat of which the top of the crown is not twisted and pinched, and pleated into a hundred-and-one odd shapes. As well as this, hours of ribbon, pleated motifs of ribbon, and odd ends of ribbons are perched on top so that the finished affair is the most perfect expression of freshness and youthfulness and general jaunty one could imagine. This is the latest expression of the cloche (for, below all this top-of-the-crown decoration, these hats are round and close-fitting). What milliners are hatching for the period when they, too, will have had their day of popularity, yet remains to be seen.

(Continued on next column.)

"THE PRINCE AT THIRTY."

LIGHT MEALS AND PLENTY OF EXERCISE.

"The Prince of Wales at Thirty" is the title of an interesting anonymous article in the *Fortnightly Review* for December.

After paying his tribute of praise to Mr. H. P. Hansell, who was tutor to the Prince and the Duke of York, for the many inspirations he gave to both boys, the writer says of the former: "Now at 30, no less than at 25, he is of athletic build, as tough and sinewy as even Sadoor or Mueller could wish to see him. There is no game like his favourite squash-rackets to keep a man fit, and in addition to his regular exercise he has a ride or a run most mornings before breakfast—the run, in shorts and vest, round the grounds of Buckingham Palace, the ride in Hyde Park on his favourite Arab mount."

He takes a very light breakfast and an almost equally light lunch; in fact, he may be called a one-meal-a-day man, and even at dinner he does not eat much. He has the athlete's regard for health.

There is so little variation ordinarily in his weight that a recent increase in it by a couple of pounds quite disturbed him.

On weighing himself at the Bath Club one morning in the second week in May he discovered that he had risen from his normal 155 lbs. to 157 lbs. "This won't do," he laughingly declared afterwards. "This won't do at all! The Rumanian royalties will be in London next week and I've got to wear my uniform. I'll never be able to get into it!"

FEW INDOOR TASTES.

The writer of the character sketch goes on to say: "The Prince has very few indoor tastes. He is neither a card-player (though he makes an exception sometimes in favour of poker) nor a collector nor a connoisseur. He does not care much for billiards, and has not yet fallen a victim to mah-jongg."

His state apartments at York House there is a gramophone, with which he sometimes whiles away an hour, now and again reinforced by a jazz band contrivance, in the operation of which his brothers are as proficient as he himself; but he is no musician, as a boy sang, but he regards his singing days as over.

THE SENTIMENTAL SEX.

HOMÉ SICKNESS OF A GREAT EXPLORER.

It would seem, if the *Daily Express* is to be believed, that man is more sentimental than woman.

Sentiment, says the writer, is usually regarded as the exclusive property of woman. It is she who treasures bundles of faded letters, and old handkerchiefs, locks of baby hair, and all the rest of the divine sentimental lumber which accompanies the heart's progress through the world. Few women can resist a sentimental atmosphere created by a dying fire and a well-remembered duet played on a barrel-organ outside. If you are a sympathetic person, you will soon hear "all about it" the story of all they have loved and lost—or would not have lost if it had not been for the delight in touching old, forgotten heart-strings. But they are, at bottom, just as great sinners. Their sentimental may lie deeper, but it is there all the same. The more conventionally masculine the man the more sentimental he is likely to be. Sentiment was undoubtedly the cause of Samson's downfall. The sailor is the worst stinger of all. He spends most of his time out of feminine society, and he sets their images on the dressing-table of his cabin. No one could have called Sir Ernest Shackleton, who spent his life in a struggle with Antarctic snows, a sentimentalist. Yet in all his leave-takings he suffered from homesickness, and wrote in truly pathetic words to his wife: "Honestly and truly, parting from you was the worst heart-breaking moment of my life. If I had failed to get to the Pole, and was within ten miles of it, and had to turn back, it would or will not mean so much sadness as was compressed into those few minutes."

Lewis has always handled this upward movement of the top of the crown with restraint and distinction. The pointed hat, pinched together at the crown, sometimes appears in his collections, but it is always restrained in its lines. A hat of brown panne he showed me that departs completely from the pointed-crown idea shows perfectly a square-topped crown of which the covering is drawn together in four folds, at the very top. Brown cross is laid over this in two brush-shaped motifs that lie horizontally, and a third motif of brown cross sweeps downward at the left side.

Another innovation introduced this season by Lewis is the diagonal crown. The straight crown which rests evenly over the arch of both eyebrows has been a rule of fashion for so long that the wide tilt which Lewis is giving to some of his models creates the impression, in spite of the fact that the brims of hats have taken a tendency to roll down at the right and up at the left for the past season. Many of Lewis's hats for the Riviera season, however, exaggerate this by means of a slanting crown, and the result is distinctly smart and jaunty.

Bibb is being used extensively in the trimming of plain felt hats, by gliding the felt and weaving the ribbon in and out of the slits. Narrow ribbon naturally lends itself to this form of treatment more easily than the wider variety, and, more successful even than ribbon, are the smaller widths of velvet ribbon. Given a plain felt hat and narrow velvet ribbon plaited into it in this way, a trimming, a charming effect can be obtained at little or no cost.

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BERNARD SHAW ON BASEBALL.

"THE IMPULSE TO HIT SOMETHING."

It is a noteworthy fact that kicking and beating have played so considerable a part in the habits which necessity has imposed on mankind in past ages that the only way of preventing civilized men from kicking and beating their wives is to organize games in which they can kick and beat balls, writes Mr. George Bernard Shaw in the *Evening Standard*, under the heading, "The Baseball Madness." Hence cricket and football in England and baseball in America. Women beat their husbands and children for want of an energetic alternative. Musical nations like the Irish resort to instruments of percussion to satisfy the irresistible impulse to hit something. The Ulster drum has saved many a Catholic from a broken head.

It was as a sociologist, not as a sportsman—I cannot endure the boredom of sport—that I seized the opportunity of the London visit of the famous Chicago Sioux and the New York Apaches (I am not quite sure of the names) to write a few lines on the game of baseball. I found that it has the great advantage over cricket of being sooner ended. As far as I can grasp it, it combines the best features of the primitive form of cricket (the only tolerable one known as "Tip-and-Run with those of lawn tennis, Fuss-in-the-corner, and Handel's "Messiah." And it surpasses them all (except Handel) in giving scope for the higher human faculties of rhetoric, irony, and eloquent emotional appeal. Even those players who had no gift of eloquence expressed their souls in diaphanous cries like the Greek *Evos!* which sounded to me like *Attaboy!* I confess that I am not enough of a Greek scholar to translate *Attaboy*, but it is a very stimulating ejaculation.

What is both surprising and delightful is that the spectators are allowed, and even expected, to join in the vocal part of the game. I do not see why this feature should not be introduced into cricket. There is no reason why the wicket-keeper should not incite the bowler to heroic exertions by combined taunting and coaxing, or why the field should not try to put the batsman off his stroke at the critical moment by neatly timed disparagements of his wife's fidelity and his mother's respectability. It is true that the English cricketeer would not do it exactly that way. He would cry, "Get your hair cut," or "Take off that paper collar," or "Beaver," but the intention and the effect would be the same. And the spectators could let themselves go utterly, rivaling each other in every art of the satirist and every apostrophe of the hero-worshipper. But even with this borrowed improvement I think cricket would still be unable to compete with baseball, except in slowness and stupidity, in which qualities it is without parallel or rival.

When I arrived on the ground Royalty, in the person of the Duke of York (I had rushed to the first game of the series), was doing its share of the daily task, the common round, by shaking hands with the carefully aligned, and so far, spotlessly clean, Sioux and Apaches, who confronted Royal censure with Republican fortitude. They were not proud, these heroes, and I shall never forget that Mr. McGraw, in whom I at last discovered the real and authentic Most Remarkable Man in America, shook hands with me. He even shook hands with the Duke. But though he was very nice to us, there is no denying that he played as both right off the stage.

BEWILDERED SPECTATORS.
The Duke, by the way, failed to catch the part of the game that reminded me of Handel. I do not know how it is in America, but in England the audience always stands up for the "Hallelujah Chorus." In America, during a game of baseball, it stands up for the seventh inning. And we all did stand up except the Royal party, which, not having been properly coached in the ritual, remained seated, a scandal that evidently made a most painful impression on the Americans present. Let this should result in a war, may I assure the United States that it was an error of pure ignorance. The King will be present at the next match, and I have no doubt that if the President will write and explain what is expected of him he will rise reverently at the proper moment, and instruct the Lord Chamberlain as to the Court does the same.

The British spectators were bewildered by the proceedings at first. The players began by playing without a ball, and with an Indian club instead of a proper bat. They varied this by imitating a slow-motion cinematographic picture. All this we in our ignorance took to be part of the celebrated but to us unknown game; and when the real play began we made no distinction, and innocently supposed that for some mysterious reason baseball was played partly without a ball and partly with one. The Indian club was a terrible stumbling-block. We could not conceive any serious players using such a thing. As to the howling, an English bowler would have been ordered off the field for it. The bowler began like a Highlander farrowing the hammer, and then asked the ball with all his might straight to the wicket-keeper for a hard catch. The batsman incidentally swiped at it, as it passed, with his absurd club; and if, as sometimes happened, he caught it with a masterly drive to square-leg, everybody said, "Foul!" (without the least foundation), and nothing else happened. But if he drove it back, then it was a case of tip-and-run and Fuss-in-the-corner, unless he was caught out, in which case we of England applauded heartily, as it was the only transaction in the game which was in the least intelligible to us. I regret to have to say that the Sioux and Apaches played equally badly, for after extraordinary exertions their scores were 1 and 2 respectively. An English cricket team would have hit up hundreds with half the trouble. Either the Apaches or the Sioux—I forget which—managed at last either to hit up three or to fail to hit up anything at which point they suddenly left in disgust for Dublin; and the cricket-trained Duke, who had been looking forward to the usual five or six hours' innings, slowly realised that the match was over, and after some incredulous hesitation, rose and made for his carriage.

Still, it was a great occasion. The only regrettable incident occurred at a very exciting and totally unintelligible moment in the game, when the champion who was playing "Puss-in-the-corner" hurled themselves on the ground like runaway boys when a policeman overtakes them. An American next me so far forgot himself as to shout, "This is better than the Birmingham Repertory Theatre." As this theatre is famous for its performances of my "Back to Methusalem," I thought the remark unnecessary and in questionable taste. If any American can be so utterly benighted as to enjoy Puss-in-the-corner more than my greatest play, he should, for the credit of his country, conceal that shameful preference instead of shouting it in the ear of Royalty and of the author.

But if an Englishman had shouted, "This is better than Lord's," I should have been disposed to agree with him. To go back to cricket after baseball is like going back to Shakespeare played in five acts with 15 minute intervals after seeing it played straight through in the correct Shakespearean way. Cricket is doomed by its "overs" as old-fashioned Shakespeare is by its acts. It is slow, stodgy, and obvious. Baseball is swift, intense, and (as to what it is all about) inscrutable.

AN UNANSWERABLE QUESTION.

Of course, many Englishmen may dislike it on that account. I once helped to establish a reform "country hotel" where the villagers could get good beer for their money instead of the horrible stuff they were accustomed to. Far from appreciating my efforts, they complained bitterly that the process of getting drunk, which the bad beer prolonged cheaply and deliciously for hours, was precipitated by the good beer, which reduced them to insensibility in 30 minutes. Men of this stamp are capable of preferring a silent game which lasts from ten to six, and which consists mostly of changing over and going in and out of a pavilion, to an uproarious, impetuous, incessant, quick-firing whirlwind of a game that lasts no more than 90 minutes; that is, long enough to give you all the amusement you desire, but not long enough to give you time to begin wondering which is the bigger fool of the two the Apache who is whacking at a ball or you who are looking at him as if your life depended on his success. And that is just the right time for a game to last.

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MANILA	"YUENSANG" — Saturday, 17th Jan. Noon
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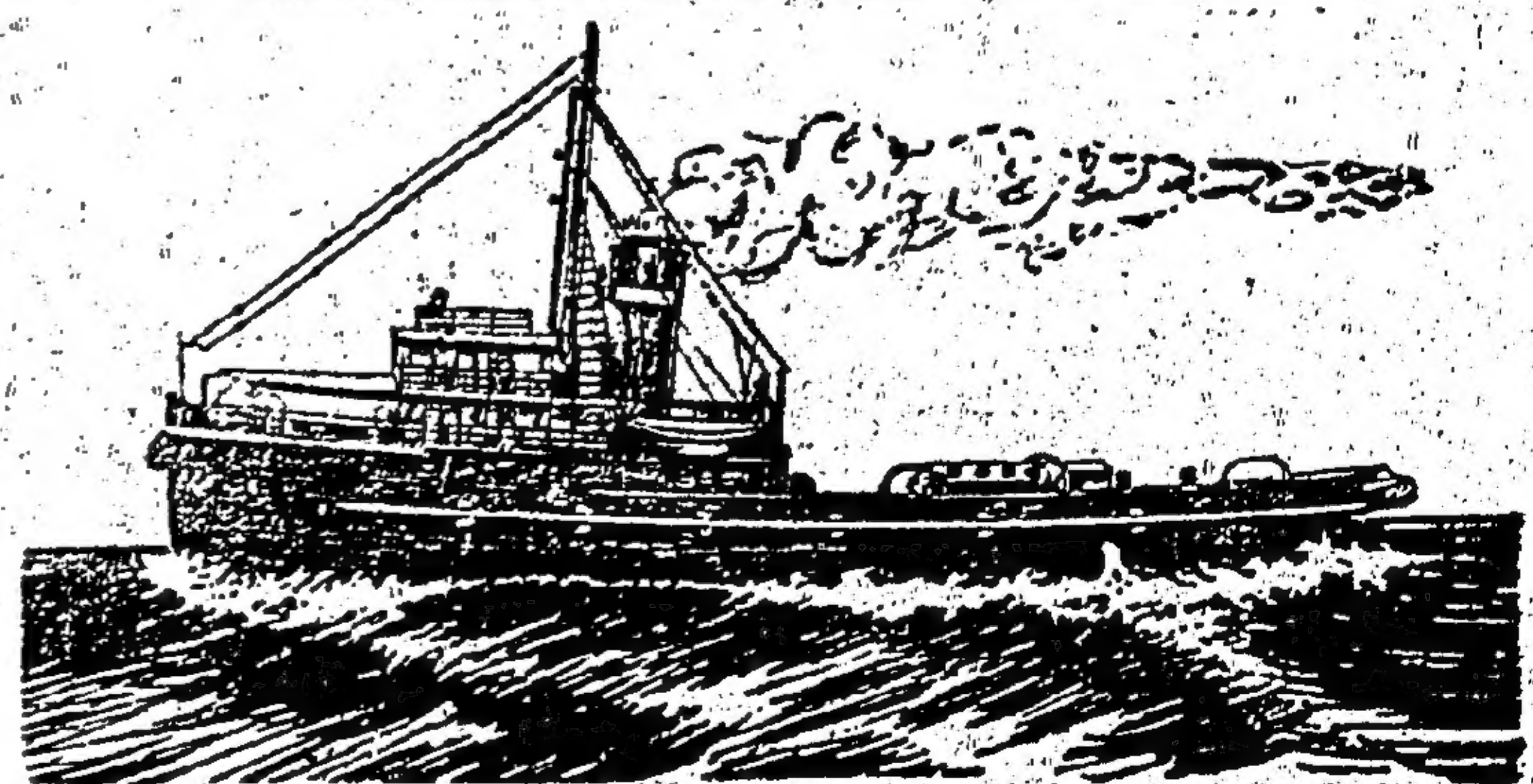
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CHANTILLY	18th Dec.	19th Jan., 1925	1st Feb. "
PORTHOUS	1st Jan., 1925	2nd Feb. "	15th Feb. "
ANGEOR	15th Jan. "	16th Feb. "	1st Mar. "
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"KALYAN"	9,119	24th Jan. Noon	Mars. L'don, S'pore, S'hai, & B'bay.
"MOREA"	10,911	7th Feb.	Marseilles & London
"DONGOLA"	8,083	8th Feb.	S'pore, Penang, Colombo & B'bay.
"BARDINIA"	8,834	18th Feb.	S'pore, Penang, Colombo & B'bay.
"KASHEMIR"	8,963	21st Feb.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"MALWA"	10,941	7th Mar.	Marseilles & London
"BOUDAN"	8,886	18th Mar.	S'pore, Penang, Colombo & B'bay.
"KASHGAH"	9,005	21st Mar.	Marseilles, London & Antwerp
"RIGILIA"	8,813	31st Mar.	S'pore, Penang, Colombo & B'bay.
"MANTUA"	10,903	4th Apr.	Marseilles & London
"KARMALA"	9,088	18th Apr.	Mars. L'don, S'pore, S'hai, & B'bay.
"MACEDONIA"	11,089	2nd May	Marseilles & London
"BARDINIA"	8,834	18th May	S'pore, Penang, Colombo & B'bay.
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"MOREA"	10,911	30th May	Marseilles & London

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"TILAWA"	10,000	18th Feb.	"do."
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"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	4th Feb.	Manila, Sandakan, Thureday
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"TILAWA"	10,000	24th Jan.	Moji & Kobe.
"TAKLIWA"	8,500	3rd Feb.	Kobe.
"MALWA"	10,941	7th Feb.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"TANDA"	6,958	7th Feb.	Moji & Kobe.
"KASHGAH"	9,005	21st Feb.	Singapore, Moji & Kobe.
"BOUDAN"	8,886	21st Feb.	"do"
"RIGILIA"	8,813	7th Mar.	"do"
"ARAFURA"	8,000	7th Mar.	Moji & Kobe.
"MANTUA"	10,903	7th Mar.	Singapore, Moji & Kobe.
"KARMALA"	9,088	21st Mar.	"do"
"MACEDONIA"	11,089	3rd Apr.	"do"
"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	4th Apr.	Moji & Kobe.
"BARDINIA"	8,834	17th Apr.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"NAGOVA"	8,854	23rd Apr.	"do"
"MOREA"	10,911	1st May	"do"
"TANDA"	6,958	9th May	Moji & Kobe.
"KALYAN"	9,119	15th May	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.
"MALWA"	10,941	29th May	"do"
"KASHMIR"	8,963	18th Jan.	"do"
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SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	"YINGCHOW"	On 14th Jan.	Noon.
SWATOW & SINGAPORE	"SINKIANG"	On 15th Jan.	11 a.m.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	"LUCHOW"	On 17th Jan.	Noon.
AMOI, SWATOW & SINGAPORE	"KIANGSU"	On 18th Jan.	D.L.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	"KAYING"	On 20th Jan.	11 a.m.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	"CHUSAN"	On 21st Jan.	Noon.
WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO, DALNY & TIEN-TSIN	"HUICHOW"	On 21st Jan.	4 p.m.
SWATOW & SHANGHAI	"SZECHUEN"	On 22nd Jan.	11 a.m.
SHANGHAI & TSINGTAO	"KANCHOW"	On 24th Jan.	Noon.
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